

Divine Conspiracy Book Study
Discussion Questions – July 13, 2009

Chap 5: The Rightness of the Kingdom Heart- Beyond the Goodness of Scribes and Pharisees

**Note: it will be important to re-read several times Matthew 5:20-48*

A Master of Moral Understanding

- What appropriate ways are we to understand the Sermon on the Mount? (131-139) Make a list.

- What important insights does Willard give us into the Law? (136-137)

The Law and the Soul

- What is the “problem in human existence”? (139-140)

- What does it mean to go “beyond the goodness of the scribe and Pharisees”? (140)

- How would you keep the law if you intended to do so? (142-143)

- What is ‘*dikaiosune*’ and how is it discussed in this section of the Sermon on the Mount? (144-146)

In the Cauldron of Anger and Contempt

- What is anger? What are its effects? (147-150)

- What is contempt? What are its effects? (151-154)

- How are anger and contempt dealt with in the kingdom of heaven?

The Destructiveness of Fantasized Desire

- According to Jesus, what is adultery? What is the “poison” of sexual desire indulged”? (158-162)
- How is temptation different than sin? (164-166)
- How are we to interpret cutting off our body parts? (166-168)
- What do we learn about divorce from this section and scripture passage? (168-173)

Transparent Words and Unquenchable Love

- Why does swearing violate the humanity in others? (173-175)
- Why is it important to respond to personal injury with nonresistance? (175-182)
- What would be contemporary examples of nonresistance we should seek to engage in- perhaps with our spouses, kids, neighbors, friends, family, co-workers and supervisors? (177-178)

Goodness is Love

- What is agape love? (182-183)
- How do we become really good persons (*dikaiosune*)?
- In what ways has God been speaking to you this chapter, and in this passage? What might God have you to deal with (through Him) and be freed from?